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May 26, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND
HAND-DELIVERY OF CONFIDENTIAL VERSION

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: **Annual Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs of Duke Energy Progress, LLC**
Docket Number: 2020-1-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Duke Energy Progress, LLC (“DEP” or the “Company”) please find the Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits of witness James J. McClay, III.

The Company respectfully requests that the confidential version of James J. McClay, III’s Rebuttal Testimony, provided to the Commission via hand-delivery, be accepted by the Commission under seal and maintained as confidential pursuant to Order No. 2005-226. Company witness McClay’s Rebuttal Testimony contains certain proprietary and confidential information that if disclosed could negatively impact DEP’s ability to safely and reliably provide effective service to its customers. The Company requests that the Commission grant the Company’s request for confidential treatment, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-804(S)(2) and the Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-10 et seq., and protect this information from public disclosure.

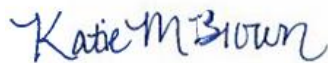
The Company would also take this opportunity to address certain procedural and discovery issues improperly raised in Mr. Gregory Lander’s direct testimony on behalf of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy and South Carolina Coastal Conservation League (“SACE/CCL”). In his direct testimony, Mr. Lander recommends that the Commission adjust the procedural schedule of future fuel proceedings to provide for more time between when the Company files its direct testimony and when intervenors file their direct testimony. Mr. Lander uses the date the Company filed its direct testimony (April 27) as the starting date for discovery and asserts that timeline provides insufficient time for intervenors to conduct discovery.

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As a preliminary matter, the Company would note that Mr. Lander's recommendation goes beyond the scope of this proceeding, and intervenors are free to object to or request modification of the procedural schedules set by the Clerk's office in future fuel proceedings. Additionally, Mr. Lander's characterization of the timeline in this proceeding omits one key fact: SACE/CCL actually propounded discovery to the Company on April 10, 2020, and had no substantive follow-up discovery requests.¹ The Company provided its responses to those discovery requests well in advance of the May 18, 2020 deadline for intervenors to file direct testimony. Further, the Company needs sufficient time to prepare its case following the end of the Review Period prior to its testimony due date, and the procedural timeline cannot be pushed back due to the rate implementation date in the Billing Period. That SACE/CCL propounded its only set of substantive discovery weeks before the Company's testimony filing date belies its purported need for an adjustment to the procedural schedule.

By copy of this letter, I am serving all parties of record via electronic mail.

Sincerely,



Katie M. Brown

cc: Parties of record

¹ As noted in Mr. McClay's rebuttal testimony, SACE/CCL send a follow-up discovery request on May 5, 2020 to correct an error in its previously submitted request.